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COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
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SUMMATION  
of  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
ACTIVITIES  
in the  
RYUKYU ISLANDS

Number 12

July-August 1948

PART IV  
SOCIAL

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## SECTION 1

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

#### C O N T E N T S

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#### PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

##### Communicable Diseases

1. The two most common diseases in the Ryukyus accounted for 69 percent of the 7,073 principal communicable disease cases reported in July: 2,971 malaria cases and 1,919 trachoma cases. Malaria incidence reached an all-time low in April and has not increased notably since. See charts on next two pages.

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CASES

|                   | <u>Okinawa-gunto</u> |             | <u>Northern Ryukyus</u> |             | <u>Southern Ryukyus</u> |             |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|                   | <u>June</u>          | <u>July</u> | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> |
| Amoebic dysentery | 18                   | 32          | 44                      | 113         | 39                      | 46          |
| Chickenpox        | 32                   | 91          | 11                      | 8           | 4                       | 13          |
| Diphtheria        | 15                   | 7           | 0                       | 1           | 5                       | 21          |
| Filariasis        | 27                   | 21          | 28                      | 43          | 32                      | 31          |
| German measles    | 119                  | 33          | 0                       | 0           | 0                       | -           |
| Influenza         | 559                  | 374         | 7                       | 0           | 127                     | 165         |
| Malaria           | 2,808                | 2,853       | 19                      | 12          | 354                     | 106         |
| Measles           | 22                   | 7           | 92                      | 100         | 0                       | -           |
| Mumps             | 120                  | 99          | 1                       | 5           | 58                      | 40          |
| Pneumonia         | 229                  | 165         | 75                      | 75          | 169                     | 131         |
| Trachoma          | 1,372                | 1,573       | 168                     | 133         | 314                     | 213         |
| Tuberculosis      | 222                  | 205         | 87                      | 126         | 25                      | 21          |
| Whooping cough    | 164                  | 152         | 34                      | 56          | 4                       | 2           |

Twenty-one cases of Japanese B encephalitis, resulting in four deaths, were reported in Okinawa-gunto in August compared with 29 and two cases reported in July and June, respectively. No Japanese B encephalitis incidence had been reported in either the Northern or Southern Ryukyus up to August.

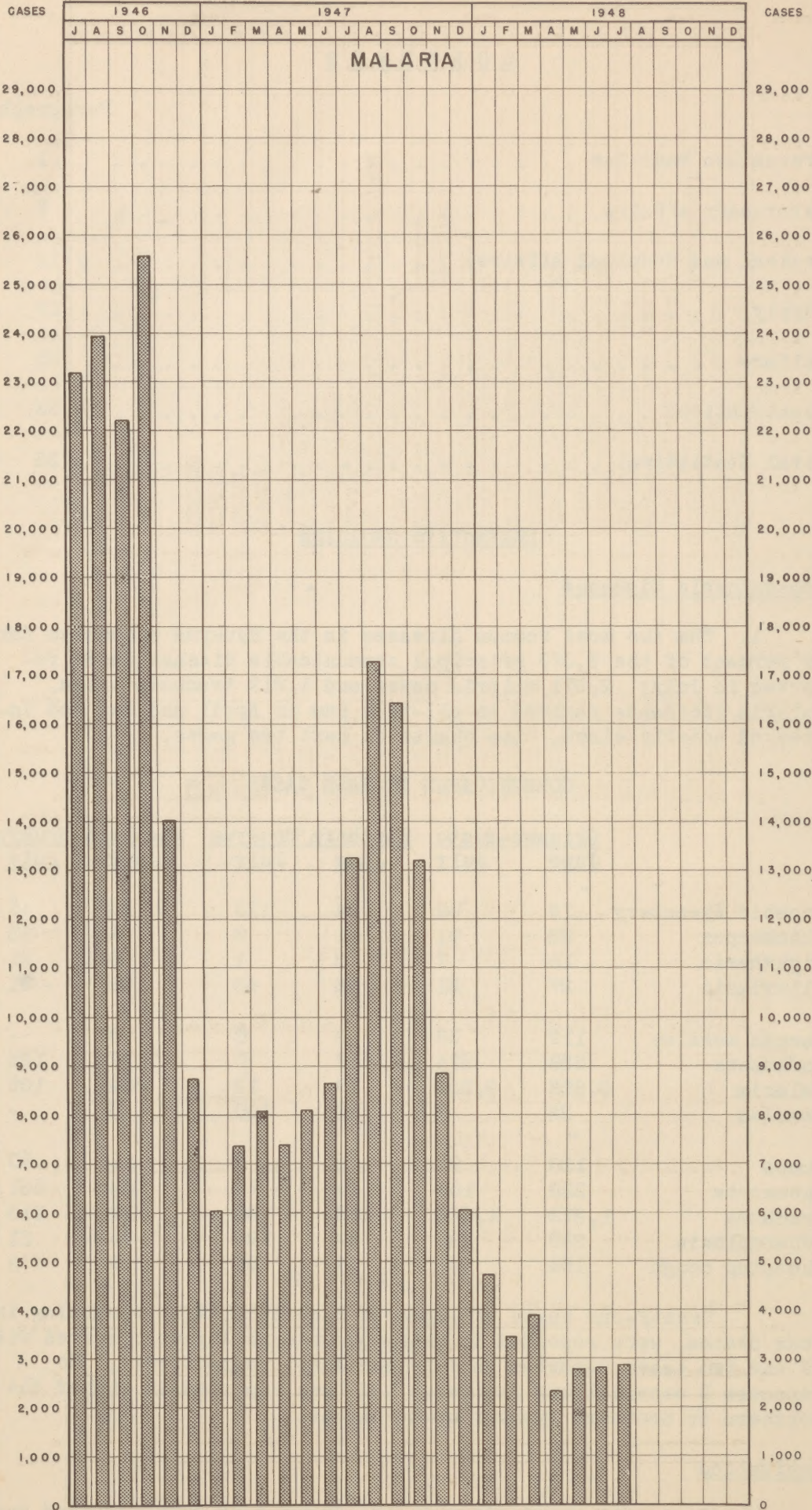
##### Sanitation

2. Sanitation activities in the Ryukyus in July included construction of 110,690 feet of drainage ditches, 2,530 latrines and



# COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

OKINAWA-GUNTO · NEW CASES MONTHLY SINCE JULY 1946



SOURCE : RYKOM MG.  
GHQ · FEC

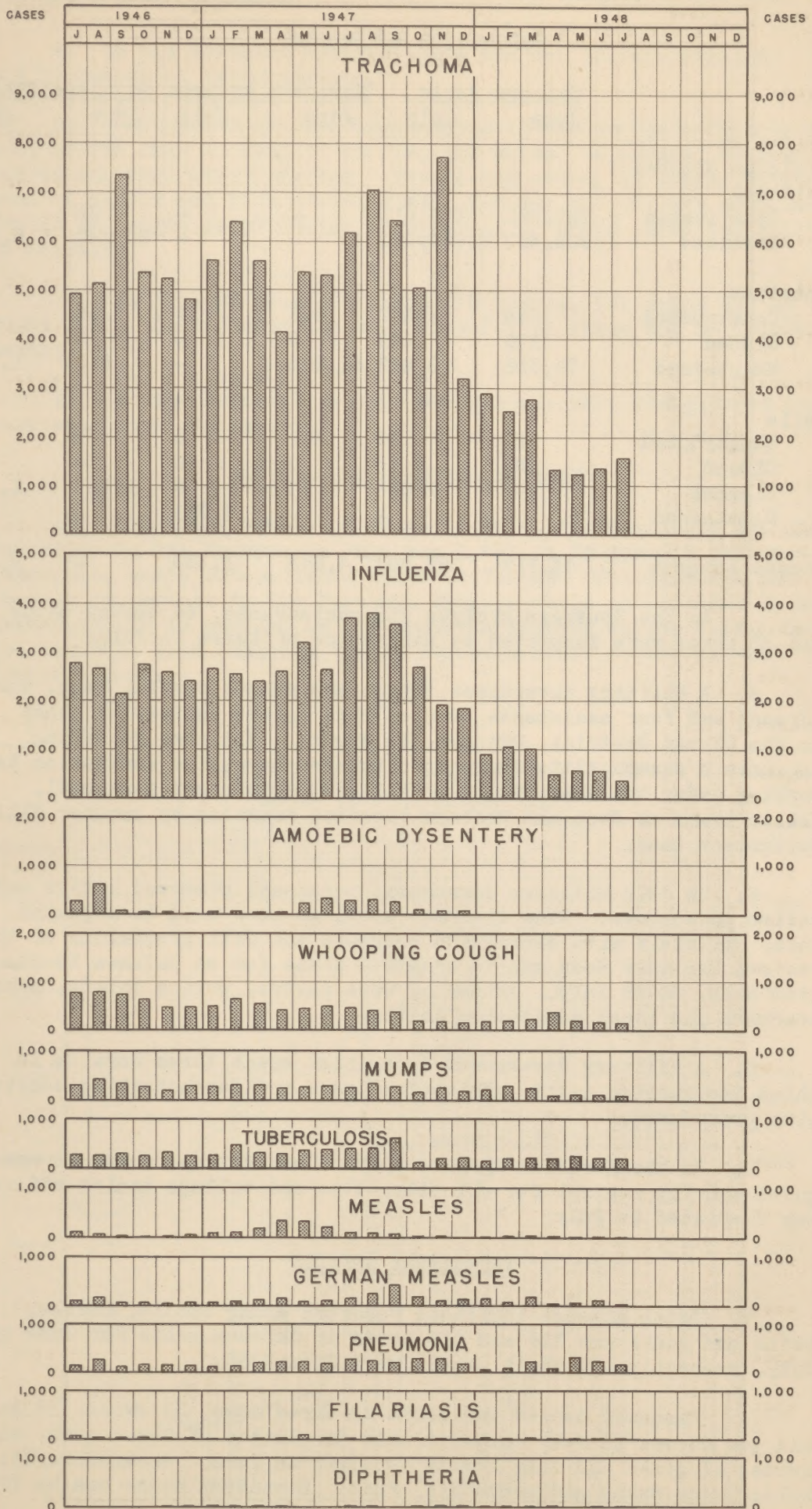
RYUKYU ISLANDS · JUL - AUG 48

NUMBER 6A



# COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

OKINAWA-GUNTO · NEW CASES MONTHLY SINCE JULY 1946



SOURCE : RYKOM MG.  
GHQ · FEC

RYUKYU ISLANDS · JUL - AUG 48

NUMBER 6B



174 wells, compared with 209,360 feet of drainage ditches, 830 latrines and 325 wells in June. During July 61,901 houses were sprayed, an increase of 28 percent over the preceding month.

#### SANITATION ACTIVITIES

|                            | <u>Okinawa-gunto</u> |             | <u>Northern Ryukyus</u> |             | <u>Southern Ryukyus</u> |             |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|                            | <u>June</u>          | <u>July</u> | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> |
| Drainage ditches<br>(feet) |                      |             |                         |             |                         |             |
| Constructed                | 209,235              | 110,415     | -                       | -           | 125                     | 275         |
| Serviced                   | 1,805,400            | 1,954,202   | -                       | -           | 60,790                  | 5,440       |
| Latrines                   |                      |             |                         |             |                         |             |
| Constructed                | 528                  | 2,469       | 248                     | 14          | 54                      | 47          |
| Closed                     | 124                  | 345         | 0                       | 0           | 0                       | 0           |
| Maintained                 | 74,558               | 78,843      | 41,855                  | -           | 616                     | 1,393       |
| Wells                      |                      |             |                         |             |                         |             |
| Constructed                | 25                   | 160         | 291                     | 5           | 9                       | 9           |
| Closed                     | 539                  | 18          | 0                       | 0           | -                       | -           |
| Cleaned                    | 148                  | 1,040       | 0                       | 6           | 2,219                   | 1,265       |
| Maintained                 | -                    | -           | -                       | 8,331       | -                       | -           |
| Houses sprayed             | 43,717               | 57,704      | 4,543                   | 1,356       | -                       | 2,841       |

In the Southern Ryukyus 363 restaurants, 64 barber shops and 23 ships were inspected by sanitation officers in July.

3. A Military Government insect and rodent control team, one foreman and four assistants, worked with native sanitation teams in the Chinen District, Okinawa, in August. Villages reporting Japanese B encephalitis cases were sprayed by native sanitation teams working under the supervision of Military Government personnel. Native teams at Koza and Maebaru received training by another Military Government team.

4. In July Military Government personnel observed native sanitation patrol men. Nine district meetings were held to acquaint local officials with sanitation progress and with provisions of the revised Sanitary Code and to complete plans for an Okinawa Sanitation Week, 20-29 July. Attending were mayors, police chiefs, school teachers and local sanitation chiefs.

5. A Military Government technician spent three days on Ie-shima instructing native sanitation teams and demonstrating sanitation procedures.

6. In the Northern Ryukyus a short sanitation course on mosquito and fly control for all city, town and village health officers was completed in July.

#### VETERINARY AFFAIRS

7. Total disease incidence reported among cattle, horses, swine and goats was 119 and 213 cases in Okinawa-gunto for June and July, respectively, while deaths were 32 and 55.

Diseases caused the death of three cows, 35 swine, 15 goats and two horses in July compared with the deaths of three cows, nine swine, 11 goats and nine horses reported in June. Gastroenteritis killed nine swine and pneumonia, four. Seventeen swine deaths from gastroenteritis were reported in both April and May.



8. One hundred forty-three swine, three goats and two head of cattle were slaughtered on Okinawa-gunto in June and July. No carcasses were condemned.

9. In the Northern Ryukyus there now are 15 veterinarians and 15 assistant veterinarians.

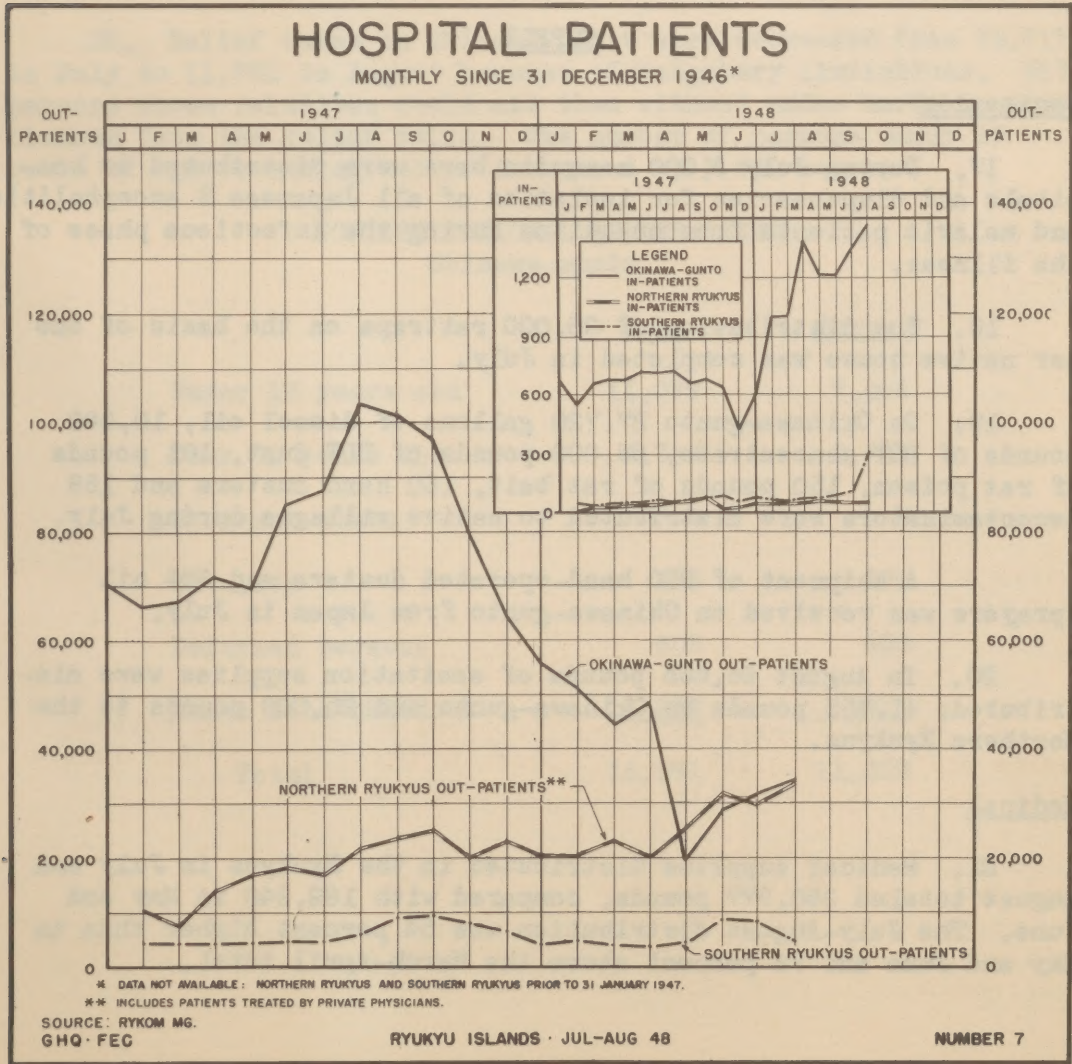
10. Animal and chicken inspections in the Northern Ryukyus in June showed that 43 head of cattle, 102 swine, 43 horses, 42 goats and 44 chickens were infected. Twenty-six swine, 12 goats, seven head of cattle and five horses died. Tetanus and cholera accounted for 15 and eight swine deaths, respectively, while parasites killed 25 chickens.

In July 48 head of cattle, 70 horses, 101 swine and 41 goats died. Gastroenteritis accounted for 15 swine and 23 chicken deaths.

11. In the Northern Ryukyus 946 animals were slaughtered in July with no condemnations.

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL AFFAIRS

12. The total number of in-patients in the hospitals and dispensaries in the Ryukyus in July was 1,831, a 21-percent increase over June, while out-patients numbered 72,434. Out-patients increased 13 percent in the Northern Ryukyus while out-patient treatment declined 43 percent in the Southern Ryukyus during July. Two new patients were admitted to the Nanseien leper colony in the Southern Ryukyus.





## MEDICAL TREATMENTS

|              | <u>Okinawa-gunto</u> |                 | <u>Northern Ryukyus</u> |             | <u>Southern Ryukyus</u> |             |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|              | <u>June</u>          | <u>July</u>     | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> | <u>June</u>             | <u>July</u> |
| In-patients  | 1,349                | 1,467           | 49                      | 51          | 112                     | 313         |
| Bed capacity | 2,432                | 2,432 <u>a/</u> | 30                      | 30          | 118                     | 335         |
| Out-patients | 31,649               | 34,301          | 29,611                  | 33,456      | 8,152                   | 4,677       |

a/ Excludes 461 dispensary beds in Okinawa-gunto.

13. In the Northern Ryukyus 10 major operations were performed by doctors in July while one was performed in the Southern Ryukyus.

14. In Okinawa-gunto there were 124 physicians, 70 physicians assistants, 31 dentists, 26 dentists' assistants, 321 regular nurses, 196 student nurses, 147 nurses aids, 329 midwives, 16 pharmacists and 62 veterinarians reported in July.

15. The 10 native nurses who completed a six-week refresher course which opened 29 June at the U. S. Army hospital in Okinawa-gunto were assigned to posts.

16. Another six-week refresher course for nurses was begun 10 August at the U. S. Army hospital in Okinawa-gunto. Only seven nurses were enrolled because hospitals were unable to spare nurses during the late summer when disease rates are high. English classes, which contribute to a better understanding between U. S. Army hospital personnel and Okinawan nurses, were continued in July and were well attended.

## SUPPLY

### Sanitation

17. During July 3,000 mosquito bars were distributed to hospitals and dispensaries for isolation of all Japanese B encephalitis and malaria patients from mosquitos during the infectious phase of the illness.

18. The distribution of 25,000 rattraps on the basis of one per native house was completed in July.

19. On Okinawa-gunto 27,720 gallons of diesel oil, 10,080 pounds of DDT concentrate, 68,000 pounds of DDT dust, 101 pounds of rat poison, 150 pounds of rat bait, 160 hand dusters and 168 decontaminators were distributed to native villages during July.

A shipment of 800 hand-operated dusters and 354 oil sprayers was received on Okinawa-gunto from Japan in July.

20. In August 66,455 pounds of sanitation supplies were distributed; 41,455 pounds to Okinawa-gunto and 25,000 pounds to the Northern Ryukyus.

### Medical

21. Medical supplies distributed in the Ryukyus in July and August totaled 280,977 pounds, compared with 182,240 in May and June. The July-August distribution was 54 percent higher than in May and June and 78 percent above the March-April total.



MEDICAL SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION  
(pounds)

|                       | <u>Okinawa-gunto</u> |               | <u>Northern Ryukyus</u> |               | <u>Southern Ryukyus</u> |               |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|                       | <u>July</u>          | <u>August</u> | <u>July</u>             | <u>August</u> | <u>July</u>             | <u>August</u> |
| Surgical dressing     | 45,622               | 2,000         | 4,500                   | 0             | 2,000                   | 0             |
| Drugs and biologicals | 37,557               | 38,500        | 10,700                  | 2,600         | 7,200                   | 2,800         |
| Equipment             | 37,797               | 77,940        | 8,021                   | 1,500         | 440                     | 1,800         |

22. Miscellaneous medical supplies and equipment received in July from surplus U. S. Army and Navy stocks and civilian supply sources on Okinawa-gunto totaled 29,379 pounds.

23. Medical supplies received in the Northern Ryukyus in July included 10 drums of DDT in oil, 14 packages of diptheria serum, two packages of antsnakebite serum and 489 packages of miscellaneous supplies.

Narcotics

24. Medical narcotics distributed on Okinawa-gunto totaled two pounds in July and 20 pounds in August. No medicinal narcotics were reported sent to the Northern and Southern Ryukyus during the July-August period.

WELFARE

Public Assistance

25. Relief cases in Okinawa-gunto were decreased from 16,717 in July to 11,781 in August because of budgetary limitations. All persons whose relatives could aid them without undue hardship were cleared from the relief rolls. The number of persons under 15 years of age receiving relief decreased by 3,580 cases.

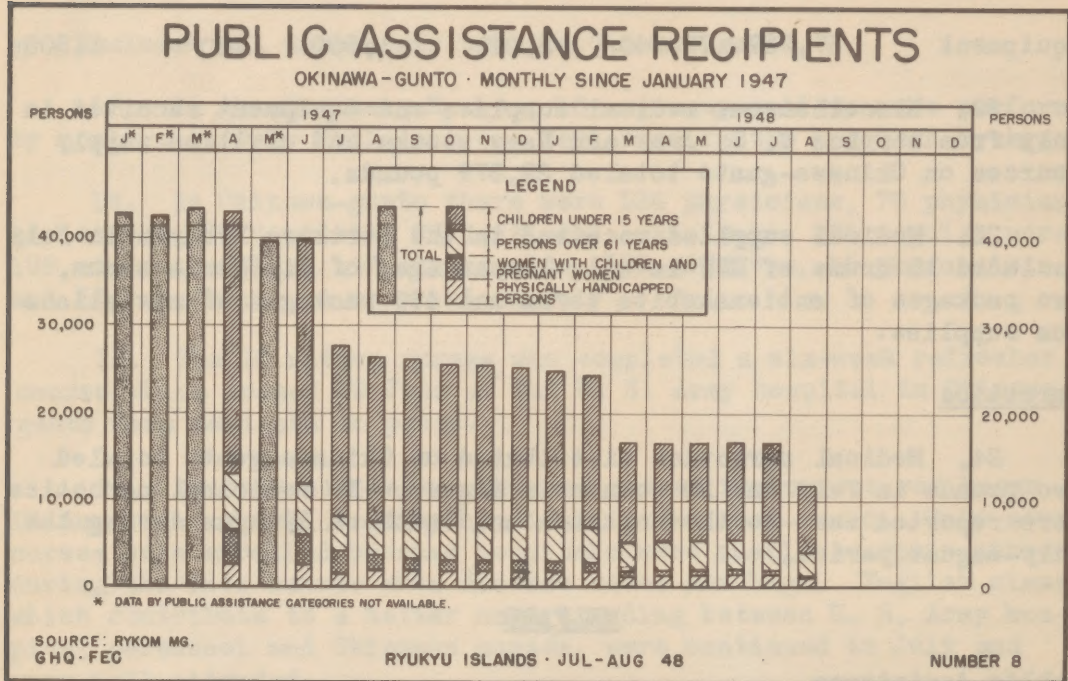
NONINSTITUTIONAL RELIEF CASES  
Okinawa-gunto

|                     | <u>July</u> | <u>August</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Under 15 years old  | 11,079      | 7,496         |
| Over 61 years old   | 3,312       | 2,604         |
| Pregnant women      | 9           | 8             |
| Invalids            | 823         | 571           |
| Deformed persons    | 609         | 463           |
| Women with children | <u>559</u>  | <u>311</u>    |
| Total               | 16,391      | 11,453        |



# INSTITUTIONAL RELIEF CASES Okinawa-gunto

|                   | July | August |
|-------------------|------|--------|
| Orphanages        | 220  | 223    |
| Old peoples homes | 106  | 105    |
| Total             | 326  | 328    |



Medicines were procured from the Public Health Department for the treatment of skin and eye infections of institutionalized orphans and the aged. Also provided were 12,000 vitamin pills and 24,000 salt tablets.

26. Persons receiving relief in the Northern Ryukyus numbered 4,744 in July and 4,686 in August.

## Southern Ryukyus

27. Miyako contributed ¥ 18,030 of foodstuffs and other goods in July to 850 needy persons, of whom 352 were widows and 498 were unemployed.

Seven hundred eighty-five persons received relief in Yae-yama during July, of whom 68 were orphans and 716 unemployed. The number of relief cases reported for August was 4,135, a 426-percent increase over July.

## Child Welfare

28. The site for a boys vocational training school, the Hizaonna Seed Farm, was transferred from the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Section of the Economics Department to the Military Government Welfare Department in August. All buildings, livestock, crops, farm implements and machinery were included in the transfer. Books were obtained for a reference library.

29. A Military Government social worker, in cooperation with the Legal and Public Safety Department, acted as an adviser in 12 juvenile courts cases in August. Three children received minimum



sentences, four were placed in custody of orphanages and five were released to parents' custody.

### Nutrition

30. Pamphlets on the proper use of imported foods were received in August from Japan. Arrangements were completed for September distribution of 3,000 recipe books, 3,000 recipe leaflets and 1,000 posters on a Ryukyus-wide basis.

### Resettlement

31. Land released to Okinawans in July totaled 1,058 acres of which 13 were for resettlement and 1,045 were for cultivation only. In August 90 acres of land were released to Okinawans for resettlement in Urasoe village.

### Red Cross

32. During August American Red Cross representatives held three meetings with the Central Committee of the Okinawan Interim Welfare Association. Discussion centered on by-laws for the village branches of the Okinawan Interim Welfare Association and on the duties of officers. Plans for building a combination headquarters and dispensary at Naha were discussed.

An American Red Cross gift of ¥ 70,000 for purchase of medical and nursing textbooks and journals in Japanese was made in August. Distribution to Okinawan doctors and nurses will be made through the Okinawan Interim Welfare Association. Purchases in Japan will be handled by Occupation authorities.

On the advice of the American Red Cross all the activities of the Northern Ryukyus Red Cross Society were terminated in August. The Northern Ryukyus Red Cross Society was not eligible for recognition either by International Red Cross or by the League of Red Cross Societies. The name "Red Cross" was illegally used. Committees were organized to establish the Amami Interim Welfare Association.

### REPATRIATION

33. Ryukyuan repatriates from Japan numbered 500 and 923 in July and August, respectively. Of these 767 went to Okinawa-gunto, 520 to the Northern Ryukyus and 136 to the Southern Ryukyus.

34. Repatriates sent to Japan numbered 98 in July and 261 in August. Of these 207 were from Okinawa-gunto and 152 were from the Northern Ryukyus.

### VITAL STATISTICS

35. June births in the Ryukyus numbered 2,109, an increase of 380 from May; deaths totaled 880, an increase of 244 from May; marriages numbered 704, a decrease of 202 from May; and divorces totaled 129, a decrease of 21 from May. The Ryukyuan population totaled 885,922 as of 30 June.

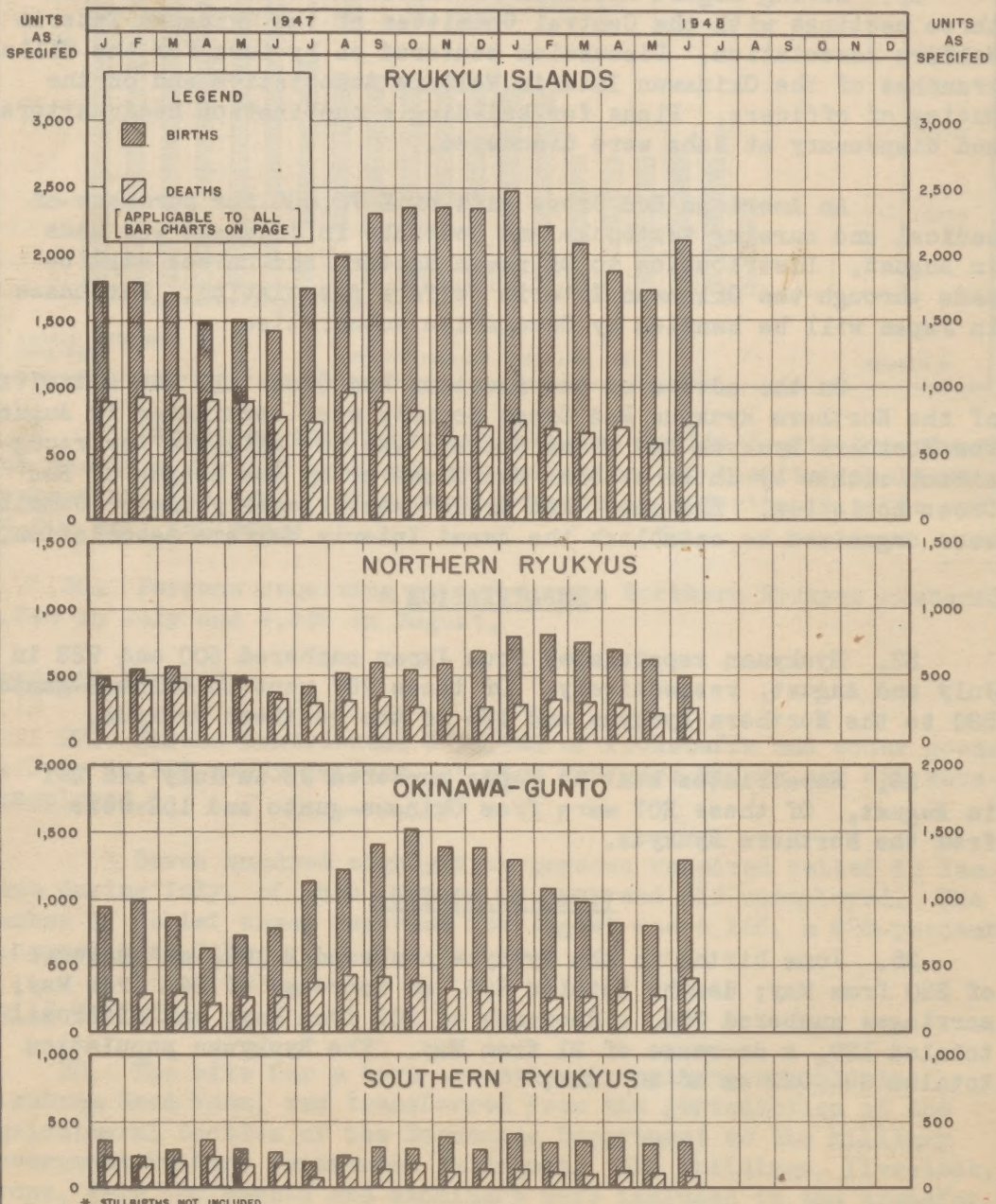


# VITAL STATISTICS May-June

|            | <u>Okinawa-gunto</u> |             | <u>Northern Ryukyus</u> |             | <u>Southern Ryukyus</u> |             |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|            | <u>May</u>           | <u>June</u> | <u>May</u>              | <u>June</u> | <u>May</u>              | <u>June</u> |
| Births     | 790                  | 1,282       | 610                     | 485         | 329                     | 342         |
| Deaths     | 271                  | 399         | 206                     | 248         | 102                     | 89          |
| Marriages  | 490                  | 390         | 251                     | 191         | 165                     | 123         |
| Divorces   | 94                   | 88          | 32                      | 27          | 24                      | 14          |
| Population | 545,152              | 547,098     | 220,386                 | 221,288     | 117,357                 | 117,536     |

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS \*

MONTHLY SINCE JANUARY 1947



SOURCE: RYKOM MG.  
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